

Indo-Russian Science and Technology Cooperation

A MoU on the joint India-Russia technology assessment and accelerated commercialization programme, was concluded in Moscow on 20th June 2017. The MoU aims at facilitating support to enterprises to improve their global competitiveness through international cooperation, innovative activities and technology transfer. The two agencies, Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE) will link the Indian and Russian institutions to develop user-friendly and easy mechanisms for assisting companies and research entities to develop collaborative and joint projects.



Dr. Sergey Polyakov, Director General, FASIE, Russia and Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, India during the signing of the MoU

From the Director's Desk

Science Diplomacy: Connecting Top Indian Science Stories to the World

Science is universal and must reach out to all around the world. Good and true science is to be shared among the nations for the larger benefit of today's well-connected societies as scientific research transcends countries and continents. "Science Diplomacy" is an effort to share India's top scientific research, technological advancements, innovations and key policy aspects with different nations especially those who have science and technology cooperation with India. Today, something like 22% Indian research papers is an outcome of collaborative research with other countries. This engagement of our researchers and scientists with their counterparts in these countries shows the growing science diplomacy that India enjoys with many countries. CSIR-NISCAIR is the pioneer in science communication in general and scholarly and encyclopedic publications in particular.

Science Diplomacy is one of the recent initiatives of the institute towards its commitment to communicating and sharing science to all stakeholders and promoting science outreach and public engagement. Science Diplomacy also offers a platform to broaden and strengthen science and technology cooperation efforts further. Much of the high-quality scientific research gets highlighted through English journals published in India and abroad. A new avenue for taking the results of Indian scientific research abroad can be opened up if the research output could be conveyed in some of the major foreign languages as well in the form of a digest to be available in the main foreign languages besides English and Hindi. Science could thus be harnessed as a diplomatic wedge benefitting English as well as non-English readers across the globe by disseminating selected scientific breakthroughs and connecting larger readership both in English and non-English regions across the world to Indian science. Diplomatic missions, research and development organizations and institutions, science academies, universities, libraries and mass media, etc., in different countries, will get such relevant content in their respective language(s) in both print and online versions. The first issue comes in Japanese-English languages, to begin with, and subsequently will be made available in other foreign languages, i.e., Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish; other languages may be added depending on the need and feasibility.

It gives me immense pleasure to place the introductory issue of Science Diplomacy in your hands. We hope you'll enjoy reading as well as referring it to your friends, colleagues, and institutions for wider reach. We look forward to your valuable suggestions.

Manoj Kumar Patariya

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